

A circular ink stamp from the OIP E JCI 77 Patent & Trademark Office. The text "OIP E JCI 77" is curved along the top inner edge, and "PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE" is curved along the bottom inner edge. In the center, the date "MAR 22 2002" is stamped horizontally.

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Art Unit *To Be Assigned*

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Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. List of cited documents on Form PTO-1449 (1 sheet);
3. Preliminary Amendment; and
4. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Robert Sokohl
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RES/rlw
Enclosures

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